

**MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR
PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT
OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6331, the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008. Due to a flight delay on June 24, 2008, I was unable to cast my vote in favor of this important piece of legislation.

The Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act is critical to my district as it stops the scheduled cut in physician payment rates under the Medicare program and provides for a 1.1 percent increase in 2009. If these cuts are not halted by Congressional action, under current law, physicians across the country are to receive a 10.6 percent cut in their Medicare payment rates. This will lead to a loss of health care access for Medicare beneficiaries in every Congressional district. Short of a permanent fix to the sustainable growth rate for doctors, it is imperative that Congress pass short-term extensions, such as this, to ensure that physicians around the country are reimbursed by Medicare for the care they are providing to our Nation's seniors. It is important to recognize that many of these doctors own small businesses and the services they provide to their communities are undeniable and necessary. We must ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to doctors, and passing this legislation will ensure access to care.

While I was disappointed that the bill included cutting Medicare Advantage payments in order to pay for the physician payment increase, I believe that the underlying issue of physician payments must take precedence in order to preserve access for Medicare beneficiaries with their local physicians.

As the President has given Congress until July 15 to act on this issue, I look forward to having an opportunity to pass legislation to fix this issue for our physicians and Medicare beneficiaries.

HONORING "KIDS IN MOTION"

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. HULSHOF. Madam Speaker, in my 12 years in Congress, I have been privileged to work with numerous organizations throughout my congressional district; agencies that are making an impact in the future of their communities. It is in that vein that today I wish to recognize Kids In Motion for their service to Hannibal, Missouri.

Twelve years ago, local law enforcement officials and concerned citizens of Hannibal met to discuss reported gang activity in the town. As a result of the meeting, several leaders in the community took upon themselves the responsibility and initiative to create this program, Kids In Motion, as a program designed to combat these problems. While several local volunteers stepped up to make KIM a suc-

cess, I specifically remember meeting numerous times with Marilyn Cohn and Sherri Steinmann, two local business and community leaders who dedicated many of their weeks, months, and even years in the program's infancy to make sure this effort was a success.

KIM is designed as a pre-employment and life success training program for at-risk youth between the ages of 12 and 15 years old. KIM's mission is a simple, yet important, one for the region. The program teaches teens and pre-teens to value work, value their community, and to value their future. Youth are provided transportation to and from their project sites, and they also receive breakfast and lunch. In Hannibal, KIM has partnered with the local Parks and Recreation Department, Tourism Bureau, Public School District, Housing Authority, and other civic groups and agencies in summer projects to benefit the community.

I've had the privilege of speaking at several KIM programs in the past, encouraging KIM members to apply themselves to their work and their communities as well. Being a former prosecutor, I've explained to the attendees the importance of choices they'll be making in their lives and how those choices can help shape their lives in years to come. Each year, I've marveled at the program's impact in the lives of pre-teens in Hannibal, shaping their lives and their futures for the impressionable and important years to come.

Each year we read about a striking decline in the number of volunteers, particularly younger citizens, who choose to take part in civic or community betterment efforts. Yet through this program, we see the rekindling of that flame, all the while providing a vehicle for these at-risk youth to spend their summers in a productive, rather than destructive, manner.

KIM encourages personal responsibility and self-reliance, preparing participants to successfully enter the workforce. Enrolled youth members are able to perform various community service projects in a supervised setting to benefit their community. While performing these services, they learn teamwork, good work habits, and a respect for authority. Through KIM's early intervention into the lives of these youth, the organization is able to redirect values and influence positive behavior and lifestyle choices. KIM also attempts to empower youth to improve their lives and eventually achieve their dreams.

Now under the watchful eye of Amy Vaughn and Douglass Community Services in Hannibal, the program is taking steps to not only serve Hannibal, but the surrounding areas as well. Amy dreamed for some time of taking the program to different communities in the region, helping to provide each of them with the opportunities afforded Hannibal over the last decade. Now, Amy's dream is becoming a reality. This month, the program is expanding to Louisiana and Bowling Green in Pike County, Missouri. Each of the three participating communities realizes the value of this organization and how it can affect the lives of youth both now and in the future.

KIM is very special because the effort was formed as a volunteer organization with no selfish motivation whatsoever. The program was pursued as a way not just to help address community concerns, but to provide a better and brighter future for Hannibal's leaders of tomorrow. Those efforts have now expanded beyond Hannibal's borders and beyond the wildest dreams of success held by the found-

ers of the organization. Local law enforcement agencies, community businesses, business leaders, and local school officials have joined forces to make this project a success. But the selfless nature of the program is what continues its appeal yet today.

As June is Kids In Motion's annual kickoff month for their summer program, they have named this month "Kids In Motion" month. On this occasion, I congratulate KIM on their tremendous record to date, and I wish them continued success for future years to come.

HONORING JAMES F. "JIM"
MCNULTY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James F. "Jim" McNulty upon his retirement as chief executive officer of Parsons Corporation, headquartered in Pasadena, California.

Born in Wheeling, West Virginia, Jim attended the United States Military Academy at West Point where he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in engineering and was commissioned as an Army second lieutenant in the field artillery in 1964.

Jim's 24-year career in the Army included a variety of training, research and development, and project management assignments. He was trained and qualified as a paratrooper, as a ranger, and as a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, and he served two tours of duty in Vietnam. During his three years of service in Germany, he was a unit commander and an operations officer in a nuclear capable Pershing missile battalion. While in the Army, he earned masters degrees from Ohio State University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow. Additional assignments included work as a research associate at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Deputy Director of the Office of Military Application in the U.S. Department of Energy, Systems Manager for the deployment of the Pershing II missile system, and program manager for the ground based laser system for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

In 1988, Mr. McNulty retired from the Army as a colonel and joined Parsons as a project manager in the Washington, DC, office. Two years later he was appointed vice president and manager of Parsons' Washington operations, and in 1992, he was promoted to senior vice president and relocated to Pasadena to assume the position of a division manager. In January 1996, Jim became a group president and in April of that same year, upon the untimely death of the then Parsons CEO, he was named as the successor chief executive officer. In 1998, he assumed the additional role of chairman of the Parsons Corporation board of directors. In May 2008, Jim relinquished his role as chief executive officer while retaining his position as the chairman of the Parsons board of directors.

Jim's volunteer participation includes serving as a trustee of the Linsly School, in Wheeling, West Virginia, and as a member of the boards of directors of the Greater Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the California Science Center and the Los Angeles Sports Council. He is

the past chairman of Town Hall Los Angeles and a previous member of the board of trustees of Pomona College. A long-time supporter of the Pasadena POPS Orchestra, Jim is also involved in the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, United Way, and numerous other Pasadena and Los Angeles civic and philanthropic organizations.

It is my great pleasure to recognize the extraordinary achievements of James F. "Jim" McNulty and I ask all Members to join me in thanking him for his service to our community and to our country.

TRIBUTE TO GOOGLE, INC., RECIPIENT OF THE NATIONAL DESIGN AWARD

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege for me to pay tribute to Google, Inc., of Mountain View, CA, for being recognized with the prestigious National Design Award given by the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum.

The National Design Awards were created in 2000 by the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum to educate the public about design. They honor and celebrate the best in American design with recipients being selected from a pool of over 800 talented designers, educators, journalists, cultural figures and corporate leaders. The National Design Awards program presents awards in ten different categories and this year they recognized Google for their leadership and talents with an award in Corporate Design.

Today, Google is recognized as one of the world's most important innovators and they achieved this in a remarkably short 10-year period. Under the superb leadership of Dr. Eric Schmidt, chairman and chief executive officer, and the two founders, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Google has consistently demonstrated the finest in cutting-edge technology and has gained the confidence of their clients and investors alike. I'm proud to represent Google as a constituent company in the distinguished 14th Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Google, Inc., for being recognized with the prestigious National Design Award given by the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, for the leadership they provide in Silicon Valley and around the world, and for always looking ahead to capture the imagination of the next generation with their commitment to innovation.

INTERNATIONAL RECORDING ARTIST TAKES INITIATIVE IN HAITI

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD the July 1, 2008, New York Carib News article entitled: "Wyclef Jean Travels to Haiti to Bring Mission of 'To-

gether for Haiti' Food Initiative Home." I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Wyclef Jean for the important work he is doing for the Haitian people.

Wyclef is a Grammy Award winning international recording artist and social activist. He started Yelè Haiti, a foundation that supports projects in education, health, environment and community development in his home country of Haiti. Wyclef is also a founding member of Together for Haiti, an alliance of three major humanitarian organizations including Yelè Haiti. Together for Haiti's mission is to address the food crisis by providing food, creating jobs, and restoring hope and pride within the nation's poorest citizens.

Wyclef's mission to help Haiti has shed a much needed light into the food crisis that is plaguing the nation. The crisis is not because of a shortage of food but rather the cost of it. Although there is food available, it has become too expensive for the majority of the population that lives on one dollar a day to afford.

Wyclef's Together for Haiti has four initiatives: Targeted Food Distribution, Immediate Employment Creation, Micro-Enterprise Grants, and Seed and Fertilizer Training. These four initiatives lay the groundwork for the continued effort to stimulate economic growth in the country and lift our Haitian neighbors out of devastating poverty.

IN TRIBUTE TO CAROL D. SAMPLE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carol Sample, a compassionate community leader who is retiring after many years of working in the Fourth Congressional District. Carol's involvement in the nonprofit and economic development arena on behalf of all people, but especially for the needs of Native people, is truly impressive.

Carol Sample is originally from a remote Ojibwe Indian Reservation called Turtle Mountain in northern North Dakota, near the Canadian border. She attended Indian boarding school in South Dakota, undergraduate studies at Howard, a historically black university in Washington, DC, and completed her graduate studies at Loretto Heights College in Denver, Colorado.

Carol has worked both within and outside the system to achieve change, including marching with the American Indian Movement, AIM. Carol's employment history demonstrates her ability to successfully navigate within the system as well. In the over two decades that Carol has resided in Milwaukee, she has accomplished much. She has developed several programs that have become national models to address the unique needs of urban Indians. She sits on numerous national committees for the U.S. Department of Labor and is often asked to testify before national and local committees on the problems confronting Indians not residing on reservations. In addition, Carol serves on local boards such as the Milwaukee Area Technical College and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Board.

On July 9, 2008, Carol Sample will retire from her dual role as executive director for the

corporate agency Spotted Eagle, Inc., and as principal for Spotted Eagle High School. Spotted Eagle was an early recipient of the best practices' School-to-Work Program of the Department of Labor. Her well-honed management ability, program development, and administration skills were utilized to ensure that a high school based on traditional Indian values was provided for Indian youth in Milwaukee. As a member of the First People, she opened the doors of Spotted Eagle to all youth in the community and we are all better for it.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Carol Sample's contributions to the Fourth Congressional District. She has helped transform the lives of many people in our community.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD KINSETH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Kinseth for reaching an important milestone as a public servant to the people of Ottosen, Iowa.

For the past 40 years Richard has served as Ottosen's mayor. He has never run for the position but has always won with write-in votes. Richard has also served two years in the military and 40 years as a mail carrier serving Ottosen and Bradgate, Iowa.

Richard, at the age of 81, takes immense pride in his town of 44 people. The town park on the old school grounds is always kept clean and safe for children. Richard has made sure the town is kept presentable by tearing down old houses and buildings that have been abandoned. Ottosen has five functioning businesses which include a body shop, repair shop, sanitation business, recycling center and the Co-op.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Richard Kinseth for his years of leadership and service to Ottosen. I consider it an honor to represent him in Congress and I wish him the best in his future service to Ottosen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I was unavoidably absent during rollcall votes 471, 472 and 473. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 471 to authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America's Treasures Program; "yea" on rollcall 472 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease a portion of a visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore; and "yea" on rollcall 473 to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992.